

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office Action of September 10, 2002, Applicants elect the invention of Group I, with traverse. Applicants traverse the requirement for restriction on the grounds that all of the inventions claimed in this application are closely related, such that their examination in a single application would not be unduly burdensome.

The claims of the elected invention have been amended without change of scope in order to place them into better condition for U.S. examination.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he is requested to contact Richard Gallagher, Reg. No. 28,781, at (703) 205-8008.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
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RCS/RG:gml

Attachment: Marked up version showing changes made

Claims 1-6 and 19-27 showing changes:

1. (amended) A gas generator for an air bag, comprising a housing having a gas discharge port, said housing containing [and an] ignition means to be actuated by [the] impact and [a] gas generating means [which is] to be ignited and burnt by the ignition means for generating a combustion gas to inflate an air bag, [the ignition means and the gas generating means stored in the housing,] wherein said housing is configured to provide two combustion chambers which store gas generating means and [further] a communication hole which allows mutual communication between the respective combustion chambers [are provided in the housing, and the] ~~-,~~ said communication hole [is] being closed by a metal thin plate having [the] a tensile strength of 15 kg/mm² or more and [the] a thickness of 10 to 200 μ m.

2. (amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 1, wherein two combustion chambers storing gas generating means are provided concentrically to be adjacent to each other in [the] a radial direction of the housing, and a communication hole is further provided to allow mutual communication between the respective combustion chambers.

3. (amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag, comprising a housing formed in a cylindrical shape having [the] its axial length longer than the outermost diameter thereof and having a plurality of gas discharge ports in the circumferential wall thereof, said housing containing [and an] ignition means to be actuated by [the] impact and [a] gas generating means [which is] to be ignited and burnt by the ignition means for generating a combustion gas to inflate an air bag, [the ignition means and the gas generating means stored in

the housing,] wherein two combustion chambers storing the gas generating means are provided concentrically to be adjacent to each other in the axial direction and/or in the radial direct of the housing, and [further] a communication hole which allows mutual communication between the respective combustion chambers is provided in the housing, [and the] said communication hole [is] being closed by a metal thin plate having [the] a tensile strength of 15 kg/mm² or more and [the] a thickness of 10 to 200 µm.

4. (amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the thickness of [a] the metal thin plate is in the range of 10 to 100 µm.

5. (twice amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 1, wherein combustion gases generated due to the combustion of the gas generating means stored in two combustion chambers reach a gas discharge port through different flow-paths for the respective combustion chambers, and the gas generating means stored in one combustion chamber is never ignited directly by the combustion gas generated in the other combustion chamber.

6. (amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 5, wherein a flow-path forming member is arranged in the housing to form a flow-path, and the combustion gas of one combustion chamber is introduced directly into a coolant means.

19. (amended) A gas generator for an air bag, comprising a housing having a gas discharge port, said housing containing [and an] ignition means to be actuated by [the] impact and [a] gas generating means [which is] to be

ignited and burnt by the ignition means for generating a combustion gas to inflate an air bag, [the ignition means and the gas generating means stored in the housing,] wherein the respective gas generating means are stored in the housing, a first combustion chamber, and a second combustion chamber, with a communication hole for allowing communication between the chambers [are] also being provided in the housing, the communication hole between the first combustion chamber and the second combustion chamber [is] being closed by a plurality of thin plates layered through an adhesive.

20. (amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 19, wherein the metal thin plates are layered in a non-flat state.

21. (twice amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 19, wherein the total thickness of a plurality of metal thin plates layered except for the adhesive is in the range of 10 to 2000 μm .

22. (twice amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 19, wherein the thickness of each metal thin plate is in the range of 5 to 100 μm .

23. (twice amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 19, wherein the thickness of a first adhesive layer provided on a contacting surface between a peripheral edge portion of the communication hole and a first metal thin plate is in the range of 10 to 50 μm .

24. (twice amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 19, wherein the thickness of a second adhesive layer provided on a

contacting surface between the first metal thin plate and a second metal thin plate is in the range of 10 to 50 μm .

25. (twice amended) The [A] gas generator for an air bag according to claim 19 [claim 9], wherein the communication hole is closed by the metal thin plate from the side of the inner wall of the first combustion chamber.

27. (twice amended) An air bag apparatus comprising [a] the gas generator for an air bag according to claim 1, an impact sensor which senses the impact to actuate the gas generator, an air bag to which the gas generated in the gas generator is introduced to be inflated, and a module case which stores the air bag[, wherein the gas generator for an air bag is the gas generator for an air bag according to claim 1].